U.S. Department of Justice



United States Attorney District of New Hampshire

Federal Building 55 Pleasant Street, Room 352 Concord, New Hampshire 03301 603/225-1552

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release June 18, 2003

Contact: Thomas Colantuono

United States Attorney of New Hampshire

Paula Silsby

United States Attorney of Maine

(207) 780-3257

FLORIDA INMATE PLEADS GUILTY TO BANK ROBBERIES

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE -- Tom Colantuono, the United States Attorney in New Hampshire, Paula Silsby, the United States Attorney in Maine, Kenneth W. Kaiser, the Special Agent in Charge of the Boston Division of the FBI, and Donald Gross, the Chief of Police in Nashua, New Hampshire, announced today that Donald Turner, a former resident of Augusta, Maine, has pled guilty to:

- the January 2, 2000 attempted robbery of the Kennebec Valley Credit Union in Augusta, Maine;
- the January 3, 2000 armed robbery of Northeast Bank in Augusta, Maine, and conspiracy to rob that bank;
- the January 8, 2000 armed robbery of Maine Bank Trust & Company in South Portland, Maine and:
- the January 12, 2002 armed robbery of the branch office of Citizens Bank that is located at 277 Daniel Webster Highway in Nashua, New Hampshire.

Turner, age 37, who is currently serving three life sentences in a Florida jail for the January 21, 2000, armed robbery of a AmSouth Bank in Largo, Florida, pleaded guilty to the offenses during a hearing that was conducted by United States District Judge George Z. Singal in Bangor, Maine on June 11, 2003. Turner had been arrested in El Paso, Texas on January 27, 200, by FBI agents and the Southwest Fugitive Task Force which is made up of the United States Marshal's Service, the El Paso County Sheriff's Department and the United States Border Patrol. The date for Turner's sentencing has not been scheduled.

After Turner pled guilty to the offenses, United States Attorney Colantuono said, "The successful prosecution of these serious offenses is a testament to the perseverance and commitment of local police officers, especially those from the Augusta and South Portland, Maine, Largo, Florida and Nashua, New Hampshire departments and the Federal Bureau of Investigation."

The United States Attorney's Office in Maine and New Hampshire were represented at the June 11 hearing by Assistant United States Attorney James McCarthy.